

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 131505

FOR WILGIS FROM ANDREWS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. TRADE AGREEMENT - THE CLOSE VOTE YESTERDAY (209-173) IN THE HOUSE CAME AS A SURPRISE TO ALL OF US, INCLUDING VANIK AND OTHERS ON THE HILL. WE ARE WORKING ON A DETAILED REPORT WHICH YOU WILL GET VIA NORMAL CHANNELS. IN THE MEANTIME, WE NEED TO REVIEW OUR STRATEGY FOR THE SENATE AND MAKE CERTAIN THAT WE HAVE ENOUGH PROPONENTS LINED UP WHO WILL BE WILLING TO WORK BEHIND THE SCENES AND ALSO TO STAND UP ON THE SENATE FLOOR AND SPEAK OUT IN SUPPORT OF THE AGREEMENT, AS VANIK AND FRENZEL DID YESTERDAY. (WE DOUBT WE CAN COUNT ON RIBICOFF FOR THIS.) ALTHOUGH NO ACTION IS EXPECTED BY THE RIBICOFF SUBCOMMITTEE UNTIL AFTER THE MEMORIAL DAY RECESS ENDS ON JUNE 4, WE NEED TO MAKE CONTACTS WITH SENATORS THIS WEEK SINCE BILL LUERS WILL BE IN EUROPE NEXT WEEK AND MUCH OF THE FOLLOWING AND GEORGE VEST WILL BE FULLY OCCU-
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PIED WITH THE NATO SUMMIT MEETING. THEREFORE, AS CARL MENTIONED DURING YOUR TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH HIM THIS MORNING, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING THE AMBASSADOR'S ADVICE ON WHOM WE MIGHT BEST APPROACH TO ACT AS "POINT MEN" IN THE SENATE, BASED ON HIS EARLIER CONTACTS HERE. LUERS PLANS TO MEET ON THIS QUESTION WITH H AND OTHERS ON THE AFTERNOON OF WEDNESDAY APRIL 24 AND THEREFORE WE REQUEST

YOUR REPLY BY IMMEDIATE CABLE IN THE O-I CHANNEL.

2. OBR ON HUNGARY - PLEASE TELL JIM GADSDEN THAT, IN RESPONSE TO HIS REQUEST, CARL CONTACTED MIKE HEGEDUS AT COMMERCE AND WAS ASSURED THAT 300 COPIES OF THE NEW OBR ON HUNGARY WILL BE AIR POUCHED ASAP. YOUR EARLIER CABLES APPARENTLY FELL BETWEEN THE CRACKS.

3. MORE ON TRADE AGREEMENT - WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED A TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE ON THE TRADE AGREEMENT. WE WILL CABLE A REPORT SEPARATELY AND POUCH A COPY OF THE TRANSCRIPT. CHRISTOPHER

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